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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/029,511	10/18/2001	Jason S. Graham	00W139	4574

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EXAMINER

CLINGER, JAMES C

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2821

DATE MAILED: 02/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/029,511

Applicant(s)

GRAHAM ET AL.

Examiner

Jim Clinger

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-10 and 16-19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 11-14 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 October 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Examiner's Amendment*

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - I. Claims 1-10 and 15-19, drawn to a deployable structure, classified in class 343, subclass 881.
  - II. Claims 11-14, drawn to a method to construct a deployable structure, classified in class 52, subclass 653.1.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions I and II are related as process and apparatus for its practice. The inventions are distinct if it can be shown that either: (1) the process as claimed can be practiced by another materially different apparatus or by hand, or (2) the apparatus as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different process. (MPEP § 806.05(e)). In this case, the method can be practiced by a different apparatus without a wire structural element, a latching mechanism or an antenna. Also the apparatus can be used for a different process like sensing or sending electromagnetic signals.
3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. During a telephone conversation with William Schubert on January 30, 2004 a provisional election was made with traverse to prosecute the invention of I, claims 1-10 and 15-19. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 11-14 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

6. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gittinger et al.(4,475,111).

Claim 1, figure 5 discloses a support(80) and a structural element(140) mechanically attached to the support(80) made of a continuous wire where each loop of the continuous wire is one section of a plurality of foldable sections and where the continuous wire is a torsion spring. Figure 2 discloses two latching mechanism

assemblies on the front of the case adapted for containing the structural element in a non-deployed state.

Claim 2, the structural element(140) disclosed in figure 5 is a radio antenna for transmitting or receiving radio frequency signals,

Claims 3-4, the antenna(140) disclosed in figure 5 can be oriented and fed so as to be either a horizontally polarized antenna or a vertically polarized antenna.

9. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Meguro et al.(5,992,120).

Claim 15, Meguro discloses a supporting device(fig. 20, no. 10), a plurality of antenna elements(fig. 1, cross hatched area; cols. 1-2) connected to the supporting device; and at least one latching mechanism assembly(fig. 21, no. 22) connected to the supporting device.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

10. Claims 5-10 and 16-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

11. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter. The following limitations are primarily responsible for distinguishing the above claims over the prior art.

Regarding claims 5-7, the limitations concerning at least one foldable section comprising a transducer array as recited in claim 5; regarding claims 8-10, the

limitations concerning the latching mechanism as recited in claim 8; regarding claims 16-18, the limitations concerning the wire being continuous and the placement of the torsion springs as recited in claim 16; and regarding claim 19, the limitation concerning a thermally actuated memory device.

### ***Conclusion***

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Palmer et al.(6,480,157) discloses a foldable turnstile antenna.

### ***Correspondence***

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Jim Clinger whose phone number is (571) 272-1820.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Papers related to Technology Center 2800 applications only may be submitted to Technology Center 2800 by facsimile transmission. Any transmission not to be considered an official response must be clearly marked "DRAFT". The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The Technology Center Fax Center number is (703) 872-9306.

James C. Clinger

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James C. Clinger', written over the printed name.